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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

M. SAGA et al.

Atty. Docket No. 108421-00079

Application No. 10/655,592

Examiner: J. Morillo

Filed: September 5, 2003

Art Unit: 1742

For: ALUMINUM ALLOY FOR RAPIDLY COOLED WELDING AND WELDING
METHOD THEREFOR

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 6, 2004

Sir:

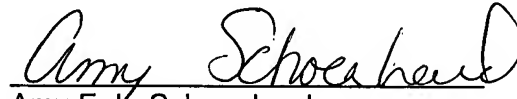
In response to the Election/Restriction Requirement mailed June 9, 2004, the Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-2 drawn to an aluminum alloy composition, with traverse. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

Further, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of Group II (claim 3, drawn to a method of welding an aluminum alloy) upon the ultimate allowance of claim 1 of Group I, from which Group II depends. Applicants respectfully submit that the MPEP requires that "if applicant elects claims directed to the product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims which depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined (MPEP § 821.04).

In view of the Applicants' above election, Applicants respectfully submit that the Restriction Requirement has been satisfied. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request examination of elected claims 1-2 on the merits.

In the event that this paper is not considered timely filed, please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 referencing Docket No. 108421-00079.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Amy Schoenhard". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and registration number.

Amy E. L. Schoenhard
Registration No. 46,512

Customer No. 004372
ARENT FOX, PLLC
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 857-6000
Fax: (202) 638-4810

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